



LA Fashion District BID
Board of Directors Minutes
Thursday, March 17, 2016

Board Members Present: Linda Becker, Mark Chatoff, Mark Cohen, Jorge Flores, Matthew Haverim, Steve Hirsh, Elisa Keller, Yul Kwon, Laurie Rosen, Brian Taban, John Van den Akker,

Board Members Absent: Lisa Korbatov, Darlene Kuba, Bradley Luster, Debbie Welsch

Guests Present: Jessica Whaley & Audrey Bellis – StartUp DTLA, Fabio Vasco – GTL, LLC.

The meeting convened at 11:52am.

1. **Public Comment:** None
2. **Welcome & Introductions:** Board Members, Guests, and Staff went around the room and introduced themselves.
3. **Presentation by Startup DTLA – Audrey Bellis:** Audrey Bellis presented Startup DTLA a new company backed by the City of LA & Mayor Garcetti. StartUp DTLA is a non-profit for the tech & creative community in Los Angeles. Housed in the Wells Fargo tower, it will become a community center with digital media labs, event space, office space, and a VC/Angel Investor Lounge for Tech/Creative startup companies. Currently, they are in the process of locating DTLA property owners who are willing to partner with the organization and offer office space for the Startup companies they work with. Contact Audrey at hello@StartupDTLA.com for more information.
4. **Approval of Minutes: February 18, 2016:** Linda Becker moved to approve the minutes from February 18, 2016. Jorge Flores seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous decision.
5. **Financial Committee:** Mark Cohen reported that the Finance Committee met with CPA Fabio Vasco from GTL, LLC to go over the 2015 Annual Review. The Committee recommended the Board approve the Annual Review with the amendment of adding the word “cash” before “Investments – Other” on page 3. Board members assessed the Annual Review and discussed financial questions with Fabio Vasco.
 - a. **ACTION ITEM: Approve the Annual Review for FY '15:** Mark Chatoff moved to approve the 2015 Financial Annual Review with the amendment of adding the word “cash” before “Investments – Other” pg 3. Brian Taban seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous decision.
6. **ACTION ITEM: Letter of Support – Senate’s “No Place like Home”:** Kent Smith introduced “No Place like Home” a bi-partisan initiative that is being proposed by Kevin De Leon. The initiative would generate a 2 billion dollar bond geared toward assisting California with homelessness. The funds would be repurposed from the current “Millionaires Tax” that is set to assist with mental health issues. Given the strong correlation between homelessness and mental health the Board decided to support the initiative. Mark Chatoff moved to approve the letter of support included in the Board of Directors packet for the “No Place Like Home” initiative. Linda Becker seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous decision.

- 7. ACTION ITEM: Sidewalk Repair Program Support Letter:** Kent Smith reported that Miguel Santana put together a report detailing a “Repair and Release” program to transition the responsibility of sidewalk repair from the City of LA back to the property owner. If adopted, the City would repair all LA sidewalks over the span of 20 years. Once a sidewalk is repaired it would then become the responsibility of the Property Owner to maintain. In an effort to speed the process the City has incentivized the program for Property Owners by allowing them to find their own contractor, waiving permit fees, and paying for half the cost of the repair. They will also institute a 5 year warranty on the sidewalk after a City Inspection. The incentivized program will be available for the first 3 years. Elisa Keller moved to approve the letter of support included in Board of Directors packet for the Sidewalk “Repair and Release” Program. Laurie Rosen seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous decision.
- 8. Operations Committee Report:** Kent Smith reported that Captain Howard Lesley, who came from the LAPD Wilshire Division, will be taking over as Captain for Central Division. He also reported that we are still dealing with the issue of graffiti vandalism but are working closely with the City Attorney’s office to prosecute cases that arise in the Fashion District.
- 9. Image & Communications Committee Report:** Rena Leddy reported that the Committee has started discussing the Urban Dinner Party and decided it will be held in October. The Fashion District is also working in conjunction with Downtown Center BID & FIDM to establish #FashionFridays, which would highlight Fashion vendors spanning the two Districts. Lastly, the Fashion District has started its 2016 Prom Campaign with promotion and marketing in full effect.
- 10. Executive Director’s Report:** Kent Smith reported that the Neighborhood Integrity Act efforts have been suspended until March 2017, with Build LA set to move forward this November. The timeline for installing Metro’s bike stations is set and will begin in June. Metro will be placing 7 stations throughout the Fashion District, each station will absorb 3 street parking spaces. Kent also announced that there will be a hearing for SB876 March 29th in Sacramento.
- 11. New Business:** Kent Smith announced that Rena Leddy is running for the Fashion District Representative for DLANC and property owners/tenants should make sure they vote.
- 12. Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 1:38pm.